

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 02172 121843Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

AGR-05 /065 W

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R 121622Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9865

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PINT, UR

SUBJECT: RASHIDOV SUPPORTS DETENTE AT REPUBLIC CONGRESS

1. SUMMARY. ELECTIONS TO UZBEK PARTY BUREAU SHOW MARKED LEADERSHIP STABILITY. RASHIDOV FAVORABLY NOTES BREZHNEV'S CONTACTS WITH FOREIGN LEADERS. BREZHNEV IS PRAISED, BUT RASHIDOV DOES NOT USE "POLITBURO HEADED BY" FORMULATION IN REFERENCES TO HIM. END SUMMARY

2. THE ELECTION OF MEMBERS AND CANDIDATE MEMBERS OF THE UZBEKISTAN PARTY BUREAU INDICATES A HIGH DEGREE OF LEADERSHIP STABILITY IN THE REPUBLIC. ONLY THE REPUBLIC KGB CHAIRMAN HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE SIXTEEN FULL AND CANDIDATE MEMBERS OF THE PARTY BUREAU.

3. ALTHOUGH THE CONGRESS BEGAN BY ELECTING "THE POLITBURO HEADED BY L. I. BREZHNEV" TO ITS HONORARY PRESIDUM, THIS FORMULATION WAS NOT REPEATED IN EITHER THE REPORT OF SH. P. RASHIDOV, THE PARTY FIRST SECRETARY, OR IN THE UZBEK PARTY LETTER TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE. IN BOTH THE REPORT AND THE LETTER, HOWEVER, CONSIDERABLE PRAISE WAS ACCORDED TO BREZHNEV. BOTH DOCUMENTS DESCRIBED HIM AS THE MOST DISTINGUISHED POLITICAL FIGURE OF THE MODERN

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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 02172 121843Z

ERA. THE PARTY LETTER WAS ADDRESSED TO BREZHNEV AS WELL AS

TO THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND FREQUENTLY REFERRED TO THE GENERAL SECRETARY AS "DEAR LEONID IL'ICH." RASHIDOV POINTED OUT THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT AIMS AND TASKS OF THE PARTY AND STATE WERE WORKED OUT AND CARRIED OUT ON THE INITIATIVE AND WITH THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF BREZHNEV; RASHIDOV PARTICULARLY REFERRED TO BREZHNEV'S ROLE IN FORMULATION OF AGRICULTURAL POLICY.

4. RASHIDOV'S FEW FOREIGN POLICY STATEMENTS DIFFERED FROM THOSE OF THE LEADERS OF OTHER REPUBLICS BY NOTING THE IMPORTANCE OF BREZHNEV'S MEETINGS WITH THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF THE USA, FRG, FRANCE AND UK AND BY MENTIONING THE TASK OF GIVING THE RELAXATION OF INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS AN IRREVERSABLE CHARACTER.

5. COMMENT: RASHIDOV'S TREATMENT OF FOREIGN POLICY INDICATES RELATIVELY STRONG SUPPORT FOR BREZHNEV'S POLICY OF IMPROVED RELATIONS WITH "CAPITALIST" COUNTRIES. HIS TREATMENT OF BREZHNEV PERSONALLY IS MILDLY PUZZLING: RASHIDOV FOR UNCLEAR REASONS SEEMS TO MAINTAIN A DEGREE OF FORMAL DISTANCE FROM BREZHNEV. STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL LEADERS, ELECTION CANDIDATES, PARTY MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 FEB 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW02172
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760054-0967
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760255/aaaabwho.tel
Line Count: 82
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <01 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RASHIDOV SUPPORTS DETENTE AT REPUBLIC CONGRESS
TAGS: PINT, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006